5: Harrison D-4 (1912-1924) 1924 M1 Middle East
Bedouin M54

it on over his old one, and since none of his garments are ever removed, the older garment gradually falls to pieces and after a while disappears altogether. This story, like much of the fiction of the world, though not strictly accurate is based on painful truth, for baths are not so frequent in the Bedouin's life as they should be, and the laundering of clothes is still less adequate.

But it is easy to blame the Bedouin for being dirty. Dirty he certainly is and his clothes even more so, but what is to be expected when water is so scarce that for lack of it animals frequently go thirsty, and sometimes even men? We forget that cleanliness is a luxury, and a very expensive luxury at that. Through the summer the Bedouin women wash their hair in camel's urine because water is so precious that it cannot be wasted for such a purpose. The men apparently go without washing. Clothes require no comment, for their condition is what might be imagined. By far the commonest hunting in Arabia is the hunt for wild game in the hair and clothes. It is always successful. The ablutions required before prayers are commonly performed with sand. The delight of such people upon arriving at some place where water is abundant and where bodies and clothes can be washed is a good thing to see.

The diet of these desert Arabs is ordinarily very frugal. A drink of camel's milk and a handful of dates are a day's rations for an adult, and more is not expected. There will also be an occasional drink of coffee, of which the Bedouin is inordinately fond. Even the poorest Bedouin tent will have some sort of a battered and worn coffee pot for this purpose. Bread is a rare luxury in such homes, and meat even a rarer one. A feeble old camel on the verge of dissolution will render a last service

361 The pastoral people are fulfilling an important economic function
433 by:

a. supplying the home markets with essential products, and

b. furnishing valuable export articles.

237 Iraqi wool is considered of good quality and finds a ready market
439 in the United States of America and in continental Europe for carpet manufacture.[1] In 1947 Iraq exported 2794 tons of wool at I D 372 349.[2] In 1946 and again in 1948 the wool export was about three times that of 1947.[3] Syria exports products like wool, butter, hides, etc.

233 The following statements will illustrate the valuable contri-
361 bution which the nomads are making to the general economy:
433

"The Bedouin are experts in the breeding of livestock and form a class who afford a valuable contribution to the economic life of Transjordan." 4) "Their (Bedouin of Iraq) occupation of raising livestock is vital to the economy of the country." 5) "Syria cannot afford to lose the meat, milk and wool which are derived from the harvesting of the desert herbage." 6)

Thus in all the countries of the Fertile Crescent, livestock breeding, the primary occupation of the nomad population, appears to be an essential and lucrative industry.

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1. Gamble, 1949, p. 20
2. ibid. p. 13
3. Data Book, 1951, p. 40
4. Report, 1938, p. 318
5. Jawad, 1945, p. 7
6. Report of the United States-Syrian Agricultural Mission, 1947, p. 23

k Dickson G-5 (1929-47) 1951 MI 1 Kuwait
Bedouins MJ4

Camels' Herd Instinct

In summer, on the other hand, camels wander about at night and graze. 233

Camel droppings (*jalla*) are collected and dried and form a much-prized fuel. When lit *jalla* gives a good hot ember, and is excellent for making coffee in camp or on the march, when no firewood is available. Hence all travellers carry a bagful. 237

Female camels' urine (*baul*) is caught and used throughout Badawin Arabia as a hairwash for women. It is supposed to strengthen and cleanse the hair, and kills all head vermin. A woman normally washes her hair once a week. *Baul* is also extensively used as a purgative.

HOMING INSTINCT

233

The homing instinct is strongly developed in the camel, but may be termed with greater accuracy the herd instinct.

A camel seems instinctively to know where its friends are, and is always anxious to get back to them.

A fairly common sight at Kuwait is to see a camel brought up to the town with a dozen others by a tent-dweller who has come to buy supplies, escaping and making its way with all speed across country to its camp possibly 30 miles away. The hue and cry after it has to be seen to be realised.

This instinct for returning home is strongest in young camels who have not often moved from the main herd before.

One way to deter a camel from acting on this instinct is to give it food, and especially water, whenever a strange place is reached—water appears somewhat to deaden the homing instinct.

Junaifir ibn Hawaila of the 'Ajman (Mahfudh) and Muhammad ibn Hajjáj, also of the 'Ajman (Al Súlaiman), both told me on 7th September, 1933, that of all animals within their ken the camel was the most clever and cunning at finding its way back to a place it came from. Its instinct in this respect was phenomenal.

Murait ibn Hawaila ('Ajman) once related to me how he lost his camel, which broke away at night from Abu Halaifa (Qusur), 25 miles from Kuwait on the coast, and was recovered 150 miles inland at Dulaimiyah with Shammar, from whom it had been bought some weeks before.